



FACT SHEET

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program

Created in 1982 through the Small Business Innovation Development Act, SBIR is designed to stimulate technology innovation by small businesses while providing the government with cost-effective technical and scientific solutions to challenging problems. SBIR also encourages small businesses to market SBIR technology in the private sector.

SBIR has four major objectives:

- Stimulate small business technology innovation
- Increase small business participation in meeting federal research and development (R&D) needs
- Increase the commercialization of SBIR developed technology
- Increase the participation of socially/economically disadvantaged small businesses and those that are at least 51% woman owned

SBIR is a three-phased process. In Phase I, technology feasibility is determined, and contracts are valued to \$100,000 and last to nine months. During Phase II, the necessary R&D is accomplished to produce a well-defined product/process, and contracts are limited to two years and \$750,000. Although in Phase III SBIR funds are not used, the primary goal is to commercialize the SBIR project.

Eleven federal agencies (including the Departments of Defense, Energy, Air Force, Army, Navy...) set aside a portion of their R&D budgets for SBIR contracts. Twice a year these eleven agencies identify various R&D topics for small business research. These topics are incorporated into agency solicitations and are distributed via the world wide web (www) in both a pre-solicitation form (during which times small businesses are afforded the opportunity

to discuss topics with experts) and in the final solicitation (www.dtic.mil/dtic/sbir).

SBIR Help Desk: 1-800-382-4634

For more information on the Air Force SBIR Program, please contact:

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For additional technology information, contact the Technology Transition Office's (TTO) Technology Connections Team hot line:

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